(d) Against the above commitment under Gas Supply Agreement, the gas supply from GAIL to Thal and Trombay plants is presently to the tune of 1.5-1.7 MMSCMD and 1.2-1.3 MMSCMD, respectively.

(e) Financial loss to the RCF due to loss of production arising out of gas shortage is estimated to be Rs. 50 crore.

Pricing period for urea units

2795. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to implement 7th and 8th pricing period, which is likely to affect the viability, and lead to closure of several urea manufacturing units in the country;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps are being taken by Government to stop closure of fertilizer companies, due to implementation of 7th and 8th pricing period;

(c) whether Government are also considering to recover subsidy; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and the period fixed for the recovery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Formulation of policy parameters/norms for the VII and VIII pricing periods under the retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme for the urea units is under consideration of the Government, keeping in view the prevailing consumption norms, capacity utilization levels etc. Government does not expect closure of urea units on account of implementation of these policy parameters.

payments and recoveries, as the case may be, would be made to/from the urea manufacturing units on account of implementation of policy parameters for the VII and VIII pricing periods.

Pricing fixation of fertilizers

†2796. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seventh and eighth price fixation policy for fertilizers in the country is being considered;

(b) if so, whether Government have identified the grounds on which prices of fertilizers are to be fixed; and

(c) what are the details of those grounds and by when the said policy is likely to be announced by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Formulation of policy parameters/norms for the 7th and 8th pricing periods under the Retention Price-cum-Subsidy Scheme is under consideration of the Government. Various parameters/norms governing the determination of retention price of urea manufacturing units for the 7th and 8th pricing periods are being reviewed. These include consumption norms, capacity utilisation level, etc. The policy will be announced as soon as it is approved by the competent authority.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.